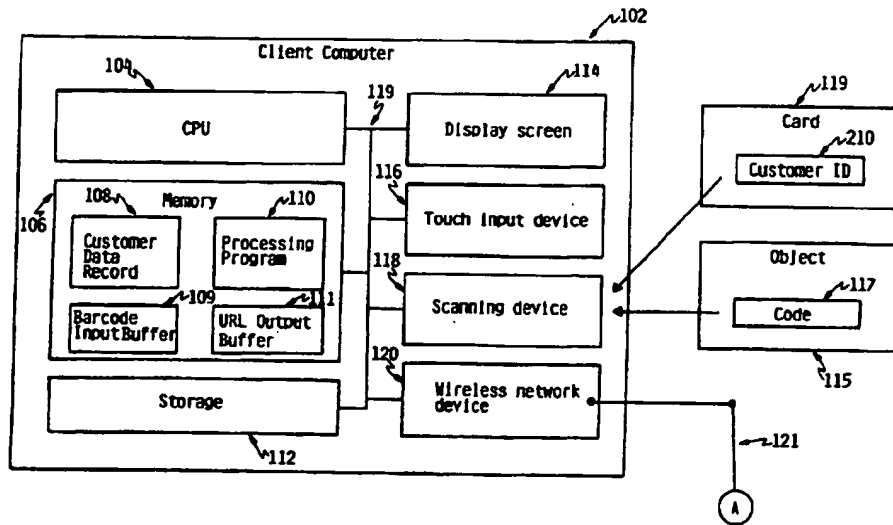




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : G06K 7/10, 5/00, 19/06, G06F 17/00, 17/60</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/37319 (43) International Publication Date: 9 October 1997 (09.10.97)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/02421 (22) International Filing Date: 20 February 1997 (20.02.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/627,744 2 April 1996 (02.04.96) US (71) Applicant: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION [US/US]; Old Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504 (US). (72) Inventors: CRAGUN, Brian, John; 2613 24th Street N.W., Rochester, MN 55906 (US). ROTHSCHILD, Wayne, Jay; 1529 Wilshire Woods Lane N.E., Rochester, MN 55906 (US). (74) Agents: GAMON, Owen, J. et al.; IBM Corporation, Dept. 917, Building 006-1, 3605 Highway 52 North, Rochester, MN 55901-7829 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: CA, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report.</p>

(54) Title: A MECHANISM FOR RETRIEVING INFORMATION USING DATA ENCODED ON AN OBJECT



(57) Abstract

A client computer (102) with a scanner (118) capable of scanning objects (115) for a code (117). The client computer (102) scans the object (115) of interest and translates the code (117) into a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) that specifies both a server computer (122, 160) and the location within the server of information that is relevant to the object (115). The client computer (102) transmits the URL to the server computer (122, 160), receives the information related to the object (115) from the server computer (122, 160), and communicates the information to the customer.